

- 1       **1. A method comprising:**  
2       populating a cache with a resource only when at least  $i$  requests for said resource have been  
3       received;  
4       wherein at least occasionally  $i$  is an integer greater than one.
- 1       **2. The method of claim 1 wherein the value of  $i$  is invariant.**
- 1       **3. The method of claim 1 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.**
- 1       **4. The method of claim 1 wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at**  
2       **least  $i$  requests for said resource have been received within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ .**
- 1       **5. The method of claim 4 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based on**  
2       **the value of  $i$ .**
- 1       **6. The method of claim 4 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.**
- 1       **7. The method of claim 4 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based on**  
2       **calendrical time.**
- 1       **8. A data processing system comprising:**  
2       a cache for storing a resource; and  
3       a processor for populating said cache with said resource only when at least  $i$  requests for said  
4       resource have been received;  
5       wherein  $i$  is an integer greater than one.
- 1       **9. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein the value of  $i$  is invariant.**
- 1       **10. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.**
- 1       **11. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein said cache is populated with said resource**  
2       **only when at least  $i$  requests for said resource have been received within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ .**
- 1       **12. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,**  
2        **$\Delta t$ , is based on the value of  $i$ .**
- 1       **13. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.**
- 1       **14. The data processing system of claim 8 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,**  
2        **$\Delta t$ , is based on calendrical time.**

1       **15.** A method comprising:  
 2       receiving at a first node in a computer network at least one request for a resource;  
 3       retrieving said resource from a second node in said computer network; and  
 4       populating a cache in said first node with said resource only when at least  $i$  requests for said  
 5 resource have been received at said first node;  
 6       wherein  $i$  is an integer greater than one.

1       **16.** The method of claim 15 wherein the value of  $i$  is invariant.

1       **17.** The method of claim 15 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.

1       **18.** The method of claim 15 wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at  
 2 least  $i$  requests for said resource have been received within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ .

1       **19.** The method of claim 18 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based on  
 2 the value of  $i$ .

1       **20.** The method of claim 18 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.

1       **21.** The method of claim 18 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based on  
 2 calendrical time.

1       **22.** The method of claim 15:  
 2       wherein said computer network is a hierarchical computer network and said first node has  $m$   
 3 filial nodes;  
 4       wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at least one request for said  
 5 resource has been received from at least  $n$  of said  $m$  filial nodes; and  
 6       wherein  $m$  is an integer greater than one,  $n$  is an integer greater than one, and  $m \geq n$ .

1       **23.** The method of claim 15:  
 2       wherein said computer network is a hierarchical computer network and said first node has  $m$   
 3 filial nodes;  
 4       wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at least one request for said  
 5 resource has been received from at least  $n$  of said  $m$  filial nodes within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ ;  
 6 and  
 7       wherein  $m$  is an integer greater than one,  $n$  is an integer greater than one, and  $m \geq n$ .

1       **24.** A first node in a computer network, said first node comprising:  
 2       a cache;  
 3       at least one receiver for receiving at least one request for a resource; and  
 4       a processor for retrieving said resource from a second node in said computer network, and for  
 5       populating said cache in said first node with said resource only when at least  $i$  requests for said  
 6       resource have been received at said first node;  
 7       wherein  $i$  is an integer greater than one.

1       **25.** The first node of claim 24 wherein the value of  $i$  is invariant.

1       **26.** The first node of claim 24 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.

1       **27.** The first node of claim 24 wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when  
 2       at least  $i$  requests for said resource have been received within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ .

1       **28.** The first node of claim 27 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based  
 2       on the value of  $i$ .

1       **29.** The first node of claim 27 wherein the value of  $i$  is based on calendrical time.

1       **30.** The first node of claim 27 wherein the duration of said elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ , is based  
 2       on calendrical time.

1       **31.** The first node of claim 24:

2       wherein said computer network is a hierarchical computer network and said first node has  $m$   
 3       filial nodes;

4       wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at least one request for said  
 5       resource has been received from at least  $n$  of said  $m$  filial nodes; and

6       wherein  $m$  is an integer greater than one,  $n$  is an integer greater than one, and  $m \geq n$ .

1       **32.** The first node of claim 24:

2       wherein said computer network is a hierarchical computer network and said first node has  $m$   
 3       filial nodes;

4       wherein said cache is populated with said resource only when at least one request for said  
 5       resource has been received from at least  $n$  of said  $m$  filial nodes within an elapsed time interval,  $\Delta t$ ;  
 6       and

7       wherein  $m$  is an integer greater than one,  $n$  is an integer greater than one, and  $m \geq n$ .